

CLAIMS:

5 1. A pressure relief arrangement for a housing including two housing portions comprising:

first means for applying compressive sealing force between the two housing portions; and

10 second means operative with said first means for responding to overpressure within the housing, said second means comprising at least one member being loaded in shear and becoming disintegral in response to the overpressure exceeding a predetermined value.

15 2. The pressure relief arrangement of claim 1 wherein said first means applies force to said second means, overpressure within the housing acting to increase the force on said second means.

20 3. The pressure relief arrangement of claim 1 wherein said second means comprises a plurality of rupture disc members having predetermined portions of reduced cross section.

25 4. The pressure relief arrangement of claim 3 wherein said first means and said rupture disc members are dimensioned and assembled to focus applied forces in a predetermined manner to said rupture disc members.

30 5. The pressure relief arrangement of claim 1 wherein said first means includes third means for focusing applied forces to said second means.

6. The pressure relief arrangement of claim 5 wherein said first means further comprised fourth means for aligning said first, second and third means.

35 7. A pressure relief arrangement for a housing comprising:
first and second housing portions, means for applying compressive sealing force between the two housing portions and means for responding to overpressure within the housing being loaded in shear and becoming disintegral in response to the overpressure exceeding a predetermined value.

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